



Council on Technology Services COVITS Workgroup

Proposed Governor's Technology Awards — Draft —

COTS recommends that the Governor's Technology Awards be reinstituted with COVITS 2005. The Awards program honors outstanding achievements and recognizes successful technology and economic development initiatives in the public and private sectors in the Commonwealth of Virginia.

Award Categories

The 2005 program includes five award categories:

1. The **Innovation in Technology Award** recognizes a Virginia public, higher education or private sector organization that best demonstrates the creation of a new innovative technology, or a significant improvement to an existing technology, or its application, through research and development efforts, that has the potential to greatly alter how business is done in a particular government, education or industry sector.
2. The **Public/Private Partnership Award** recognizes the public/private partnership that best demonstrates a mutually beneficial relationship in which cost effective, innovative technology solutions leverage industry investment and result in enhanced service delivery to the citizens of the Commonwealth of Virginia
3. The **One Virginia Award** recognizes an organization or program that has reached out to traditionally technologically underserved regions of the Commonwealth by expanding access to technology resources, creating jobs in Virginia beyond their home region.
4. The **e-Government Award** recognizes a public sector organization that makes broad and innovative use of technology to deliver services to its constituents.
5. The **Entrepreneur Award** recognizes a business that best exemplifies the Virginia entrepreneurial spirit through use of technology to grow into new markets, to markedly increase jobs inside the Commonwealth of Virginia, and/or participate in local or regional business associations or activities (e.g., Chambers of Commerce or Regional Technology Councils).

Nomination and Judging Process

Organizations may apply in one or more categories but a single initiative can be nominated in only one category. For example, a nomination for an Innovation in Technology Award cannot also be applied for in the Public/Partnership Award category. The nomination process will be open from May 1 to August 15.

Nominations will be evaluated by an independent panel of judges representing public, education and private sectors selected by the Secretary of Technology from recommendations by . . . [tbd]

Nominees will be evaluated according to the following criteria:

Innovation in Technology Award

1. Technological merit.
2. Supplying a solution that currently does not exist for an outstanding need or problem.
3. Products should be unique, innovative, and cost-effective.
4. Value to society and the marketplace, and the success in attaining business goals and objectives.

Public/Private Partnership Award

1. Creative or innovative approach or concept.
2. Enhanced service delivery to public customers and significant improvements to products.
3. Return on investment (cost savings, cost avoidance, etc.).

One Virginia Award

1. Increased access to technology and related skills among underserved populations
2. Outreach to underserved areas in Virginia through job creation.

e-Government Award

1. Enhances the manner in which the organization provides services to its customers.
2. Provides a broad array of electronic services across multiple units and programs.
3. Includes service or information sharing among different levels or units of government.
4. Improves the overall efficiency of the organizations' operations or results in cost savings.

Entrepreneur Award

1. Provides innovative products or services.
2. Three-year growth in number of employees.
3. Three-year increase in sales and/or unit volume.
4. Community service and impact on local economy.